

NOAA Education Council Meeting

Date/Time: March 19, 2014 / 1:00–4:00 pm
Location: **SSMC3, Room 9836**
Dial-in: 866.901.0711
Passcode: 8134683, leader code: 1144183
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Adobe Connects Link to Meeting: <http://connectpro46305642.adobeconnect.com/edcouncil/>

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AGENDA

- 1:00 Welcome/Opening remarks - Louisa Koch
- 1:35 Update on Strategic Plan strategies development (*Informational*) - Christos Michalopoulos and Marissa Jones (15 min presentation/ 20 min discussion)
- 2:10 Updates and announcements (30 minutes)
- 2:40 Break (15 min)
- 2:55 100Kin10: Providing America's classrooms with 100,000 excellent STEM teachers by 2021 (*Informational*) - Talia Milgrom-Elcott/ Frank Niepold sponsor (15 min presentation/ 15 min discussion)
- ~~3:25 Citizen Science Update (*Input requested*) - John McLaughlin/ Christos Michalopoulos sponsor (20 min presentation/ 15 min discussion)~~

Attendance

In person: Louisa Koch (LK), Bronwen Rice (BR), Bruce Moravchik (BM), Chelsea Berg (CB), Christos Michalopoulos (CM), Frank Niepold (FN), Leah Henry (LH), Lisa Nakamura (LN), Luis Leandro (LL), Jennifer Hammond (JH), Marissa Jones (MJ), Marlene Kaplan, Nina Jackson (NJ), Rochelle Plutchak (RP), Ron Gird (RG)

On the phone/chat: Bree Murphy (BMu), Carrie McDougal (CMc), Christopher Nelson (CN), John Baek (JB), Judy Koepsell (JK), Paula Keener-Chavis (PK), Seaberry Nachbar (SN), Shannon Sprague (SSp), Stacy Rudolph (SR)

Presenters/guests: Talia Milgrom-Elcott

Summary of Action Items and Decisions:

ACTION: The Office of Education will hold a constituent briefing for internal and external audiences regarding the President's FY15 STEM Consolidation Proposal.

Completed. Scheduled for April 10, 2014 at 1-2 p.m. EDT.

ACTION: The Office of Education will post information about the NOAA Budget and the programs proposed for termination on the Office of Education website.

Completed.

ACTION: Frank Niepold will send out login information for the 100K in 10 Partner Portal.

Welcome/Opening Remarks (LK)

- LK: I want to start out by announcing a shift in responsibilities. Marlene is focusing very much on Silver Spring - EPP, Hollings, and undergrad/grad issues. She has stepped down as Vice Chair of the Education Council. Christos has stepped in to fill the void. This is something that he has been doing all the way along, so there's not much shifting in terms of what he brings to the Council and we're very glad to have him officially involved.
- LK: The President's Budget is out. This is the first year in which they actually delayed the Agency Budgets, which rolled out a week after the full President's Budget. Yesterday Dr. Kathryn Sullivan, recently confirmed as NOAA Administrator, made one of her first appearances and rolled out the FY15 Budget in the HCHB Auditorium. I think the snow dampened the audience but there were still at least 100 people in attendance and many more joining by phone. She fielded about 20 questions, two of which were about STEM education. It was nice to have people looking to see what had happened. Last year 12 out of 18 questions were about STEM education. This year 2/20 was a nice level of interest, but not overwhelming. Clearly the budget does not have a lot of good news for people who are tracking STEM education, with 6 out of 8 of our programs in the STEM Inventory being proposed for elimination. Last year all of those programs were restored, and given the Congressional reactions I've heard so far, I'd be surprised if something different were to happen. I briefed House Appropriations and the concern expressed by the House Appropriations Committee was what has the administration done to address the very clear concerns that Congress included in both the House and the Senate marks and the Omnibus Bill and there was not a good answer to that question. Tomorrow I am going to brief Senate Appropriations.
- LK: Dr. Sullivan has also accepted and performed in her first educational event as Administrator with the Teacher at Sea Program. She spent 45 minutes with Jennifer Hammond and her crew. It was a wonderful first event for our newly confirmed administrator. Despite the fact that this program is proposed for elimination by the Administration, the amount of time she spent listening and interacting with the teachers showed great support and interest for this education program.
- LK: One question we had for the Council: Last year we had a briefing each for both NOAA staff and external constituents about the STEM Consolidation. Given that this is doubling down on the proposal from last year, we are not sure if there is interest in the external community. Right now I know of no place where you can get the list of the six programs eliminated in NOAA. We've hesitated to get those on the Office of Education website because we don't want to be seen as throwing up flares about something that is still working its way out of the Administration. I have been told that OSTP will publish something in more detail that actually names the programs, although they will not name B-WET because although they are terminating it, B-WET is not on

the termination list. Last year we had very high interest, so I wanted to open it up for discussion on any budget rollout issues.

- JH: I think the reason we didn't get 12/20 questions yesterday is because the list of programs proposed for termination is so hidden. We have nowhere to point people. I would encourage a briefing and a call where we send messages out to our constituents and give them an opportunity to speak to you about their concerns. I think it went well last year.
- CB: I think it's a good idea to talk about the proposal and the next steps because I think a lot of constituents think that the President's Budget is reality.
- RP: The different Line Offices all do their constituent briefings about what the Budget means for them. I think it makes sense for this office to continue to do the same.
- LK: So last year we did an internal and an external briefing, so maybe this year we'll combine them.
 - CB: I think that would be fine.
- LK: We have reached out to the members of Congress who signed the House and the Senate "Dear Colleagues" letters in support of NOAA Education. Lisa and I are meeting with many of those people and there is concern so we'll go ahead and set up a constituent briefing.
 - **ACTION: The Office of Education will host a constituents meeting and post informational materials on the website.**
- JH: I had another question about the list of programs proposed for termination. Last year I thought the Office of Education published a consolidated list of the programs. What is the difference between this year and last year?
 - LK: In both cases, the negotiations have taken place largely without the Office of Education being involved. It has been between NOAA Budget, Commerce Budget and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). OMB published in that 31 programs had been eliminated and the listed them by agency. The problem is that the data doesn't fit the numbers that they published. For example, it says 6 programs for the Department of Commerce (DOC), but NOAA alone has 6 programs eliminated plus NIST has one. The language says that 31 programs were terminated or consolidated so there's a lot of flux around terminated or consolidated. In the NOAA Budget, we now have the 5 programs that are proposed for elimination but B-WET doesn't show up in the Congressional Justification (CJ) as an elimination because it wasn't requested last year, but Dr. Sullivan included it as the only terminated program listed by name in her presentation.
 - CM: Competitive Grants was included in the CJ, even though it was also not requested last year. There's no consistent logic.
- MK: Are we sure what's on the list now?
 - LK: Teacher at Sea, Sea Grant (STEM Education and NMFS Sea Grant Fellowship), Ocean Exploration and Research, B-WET, Competitive Grants, and Nancy Foster. In most cases (B-WET and Competitive Education Grants are exceptions) they are not actually moving money where funding in the home office is reduced, in all cases they just have a generic phrase about how they're going to apply funds to fresh reorganization within the office.
- FN: I thought they wouldn't have done this again. Am I missing something? Because I thought that they wouldn't do something that was completely bipartisanly rejected.
 - LK: I think OMB is committed to the idea that this is the right path forward.
- JH: From the outside looking in it does look like they accomplished a great deal last year. There are significantly fewer programs than there were last year. The money has been reallocated to make it look like they're moving the STEM bar to new heights.

- LK: And a lot of programs died. Programs were terminated in DOD, DOE, and NASA.
- FN: They died, but has something new been born?
- JH: There's a new STEM office in the Department of Education.
- FN: But is there anything that we need to know about that is coming online?
- LK: NSF has gotten increases as a result of the STEM consolidation. Department of Education and Smithsonian did not get their increases. NSF seems to be the agency capable of capitalizing on this initiative.
- FN: But K-12 initiatives are not off the ground yet?
- LK: No, but the STEM Innovation Network was funded in the Senate and they're hoping for funding in both the House and the Senate this year. Some other monies became available and they're using them for the objectives that were set out so there is Administration commitment and that is playing out to advantage some of these efforts.
- JH: There is a new Climate Literacy piece in the CJ about working with NSTA and 100K in 10.
- FN: But that's coming from Climate, not from STEM.
- CB: I have a question. A couple of weeks ago we had been talking with your office about a proposal to consolidate all of the NOAA education programs into your office. What happened?
 - LK: The Pass Back language told us that we should be consolidating programs in our office so we reached out to programs that we were still including in the inventory - Sea Grant, Teacher at Sea, Nancy Foster - and asked them to give us justification so we could go back to OMB and say, "this is a bad idea because..." But then OMB came back and said that all of those programs are terminated, so there was no need to worry about consolidating them. OMB wanted the Office of Education to pick up all of the other programs, but we were not sure what those were. We also haven't been able to talk to anyone at OMB and the examiner has turned over four times so there's a lack of institutional memory and awareness. But it is really amazing that the President's Budget came out and then a week later the agency budgets came out. That's a phenomenal record, so hopefully with the deck all cleared of that we can actually meet with OMB. We would like to meet with the education branch and the commerce branch. We will use the justifications that we got from the programs to talk about the value of those programs to NOAA. We got a \$2 million increase in the Office of Education to implement the STEM consolidation, but we were explicitly told not to use that money to support any of the programs that were proposed for termination.
- CMC: Do you have any sense of Dr. Sullivan's position on this issue?
 - LK: Well, it was a very good sign to me that she spent 45 minutes with the Teachers at Sea the day she had to go on the hill to defend her budget. She (along with Eileen Sobeck, the head of NOAA fisheries) is visibly connecting herself with them even though that program is proposed for termination.
 - JH: They both were given the language that the program was going to be cut and the both still came, so that was a good sign.
 - LK: Dr. Sullivan has talked to Holdren about how this program didn't make sense to her, but I think she was holding her punches a little bit more but now that she is confirmed she will be a little bit freer. But she did talk about the good thing that will come out of the STEM consolidation.
 - CM: Is it possible that she is aware that Congress likes our programs so she is not rocking the boat?
 - LK: I do think she is aware that Congress likes our programs, but she's never

said anything to me about not going forward and speaking about the attributes of our programs. She doesn't control this dynamic and Holdren doesn't control this dynamic. It comes from OMB.

- JH: BWET is in the CJ as terminated on page 11.
- LN: And speaking of the list, I wanted to talk about that document that we sent out. The bold on the first page is me highlighting OSTP's message and talking points. On the back, we show the status of the FY14 programs that were proposed for termination, but funded in Appropriations. This was intended for internal use, but I did get a question about whether it can be shared outside of NOAA. The table includes the official numbers that we send to OMB for data calls, so I wasn't comfortable saying that this could be shared.
 - FN: There are a couple of aspects of this table that are confusing to me. There are some programs like OER (Ocean Exploration and Research) that have zeros all the way across.
 - LN: This table includes on the STEM dollars that were included in the STEM inventory.
 - LK: One problem that I see with publishing this is that the administration considers OER a STEM program and has a number listed there. But these are our numbers and we control our numbers. I'm wondering if this is something useful for us to post.
 - JH: Last year we just had a list of the six programs proposed for termination. I'm not necessarily looking for this level of detail. I think it might open up more questions because people might not understand the table. At minimum we need a list of the six because we don't show up in the Blue Book or OMB.
 - LK: So if we replaced the table with list of programs proposed for termination along with the current status of those programs.
 - PK: I think we need to do that at a minimum. I've received two calls about OER so this information is out.
 - LK: We will work on getting something posted and setting up a webinar.
- MK: I think this information should be freely available in advance of a stakeholder briefing. I think we need to provide feedback to NOAA Administration that if the administration is going to cut programs they need to be upfront about it.
 - CM: I don't think NOAA controlled this.
 - MK: It's our Blue Book.
 - LK: Last year this information was available but this year it was not emphasized.
 - CB: This is listed in the CJ, which is public.
 - MK: But stakeholders don't know to use it. The point of the NOAA Blue Book was to make the budget more understandable. At this point, you could read the Blue Book and still not know what's going on for Education.
 - CB: It's confusing because we're not actually getting a cut, it's a level funded program that just can't do STEM anymore. It would help if that was clearly explained somewhere.
- CMc: The feedback I heard from people who attended the briefing was that they were very confused about whether the STEM consolidation was still moving forward or not. It has not been clearly communicated in general.
 - CM: I thought Dr. Sullivan was very clear that the STEM consolidation was moving forward and that there were some improvements. That was in response Mary Miller's question.
 - CMc: But the implications were not spelled out.
 - LK: I think a slide would have provided a lot of clarification.

Update on Strategic Plan Strategies Development – Marissa Jones and Christos Michalopoulos (15 min presentation/ 20 min discussion)

See presentation

- FN: Currently the public review period is in August. From a strategic perspective, should we consider a different time line given the current political climate?
 - LK: When would you suggest and why?
 - FN: Just putting it out as a question to consider.
- CM: As with any complex process, things will remain fluid. If we encounter a snag, things will change. These are interesting questions. In the STEM Inventory we are down to two programs, but here we are with a new Strategic Plan. Our plan is about connecting to NOAA's mission and not necessarily focusing on STEM so it should be consistent regardless of the political climate.
 - JH: And I think we agreed early on not to base our Strategic Plan on the annual budget process because otherwise it couldn't be a 20 year plan.
- MK: NMEA meeting is at the end of July this year, which might make August a good time for review. It's probably too late for a session, but SG educators will all be there and may be able to take part in a side meeting.
 - LK: We should be careful about how we commit ourselves. This is a complex process so we may not be as far along as we expect now. But there may be plenty to discuss.
 - FN: There are other organizations and venues to consider in addition to NMEA as well, such as NAI, ASTC, informal ed. I suggest extending this idea to other missions.
- RP: Involving stakeholders earlier in the process might be a good idea. NOAA is continuously criticized for this.
 - LK: You could send it to the CI partners in May.
 - RP: How about other external stakeholders that may feel this way?
 - CM: We have not explored and discussed who needs to weigh in and the level of the external review. There may be an opportunity for this discussion at the April Ed Council.
 - LK: It would be a good thing to put our hands around. Which organizations to we reach out to? When do we send it to various partners?
 - FN: Stakeholder listening session would be a good idea early in the process. Not necessarily as a full line-by-line public review.
 - RP: That's what I was thinking, too.
 - CM: This may be a good idea to do a high level listening session.
- LK: We have traditional taken off July or August (Ed Council meeting). We could decide to not take a meeting off?
 - CM: This process is fluid so we may have more information as we go along. We could distribute draft plan then take a month off to read and digest then come back in August to discuss.
 - RP: For the public review, think about the timing of kids going back to school and when we are most likely to get back the most feedback.
 - FN: Early Aug might be better than late Aug to get more feedback.
 - CM: We will need to allow ourselves some time to digest feedback before we do full public review. We are and have always been targeting a 2015 publication date.
- CB: When will we see the actual plan? Will the comments from the NOAA Ed community be incorporated by the time we approve it?

- CM: The draft outline will be presented and ready to be disseminated through networks in April. Share it with your networks. You can say comments should be incorporated before you are comfortable voting.
- LL: Is there value in doing a webinar for the extended NOAA education network? Would it fit in the April timeframe?
 - CM: I think this is an excellent idea. I pose the question back to the Council. Do you think this is valuable? The Council has been asking for ways of engaging our wider network; this could be a first attempt to do that.
 - FN: Think about including the Labs as well. The community is a bit larger than the network.
 - LK: Where is the boundary between external?
 - LL: I was thinking more of NOAA field folks to market it. NOAA employees are the audience.
 - LK: Are the Sea Grant programs internal or external?
 - RP: I think we consider the State SG programs external, at least for this conversation.
- BMo: As soon as you put a call out of a webinar, just know that it will go out broader.
- JH: Trying to reengage our fisheries community, it would be helpful to have a very basic conference call with basic information.
- CM: We should think about whether to have tailored one or one general one. If you have a preference let us know.
- LK: I see the value of a general one in getting a mixing of different LO and program perspectives. We could also have tailored ones as necessary.
- FN: Think about the large webinar capacity.

Around the room

- CB: Oregon Sea Grant in cooperation with Oregon State University is starting a new round of Free Choice Learning Professional Certificates. It's a cool program and I'm happy to share the information. The applications for the 2015 Knauss are due at the end of March. I am looking for reviewers, which requires reviewing applications ahead of time and 3 day in person review panel. I'd love to have reviewers who are federal employees. Host offers are due around the end of October.
 - Chelsea will send two emails to Ed Council
- JH: Mid Atlantic TAS alumni workshop took place last weekend involving about 20 teachers. Goal of the workshop was to introduce them to each other and introduce them to NOAA resources. Talked about how they are going to use NOAA material in the classroom. We accomplished our goal because one of the teachers said he "arrived an atom and left a molecule." We are hoping to have another workshop where we get them out in the field. The first teacher this year sailed from Hawaii, out for two weeks studying cetaceans.
- LL: Fisheries is making good progress on SOS project. We have formally engaged with the University of British Columbia to develop global fisheries and climate and historical stocks datasets. They have a sphere but they don't know how to use it.
- MK: EPP is talking with cooperative institutes about better coordination across programs. Follow up email from Cooperative Institute at Princeton to provide opportunities for students to come into our programs.
- RG: For the second year in a row we have collaborated with Chesapeake Bay Office to develop a workshop for formal educators in Maryland. Based on evaluations from attendees, we are considering expanding the workshop to three days and move to different regions. Contacted folks at Nauticus.

- NJ: NESDIS has an upcoming meeting with NESDIS education council about partnership in education program. Drafted speakers for program and hopefully we will finalize it tomorrow. We drafted an operation plan with budget for education and outreach.
- FN: Last week I represented the agency at 100K in 10 Solutions Lab. The Solutions Lab is where you take a problem that you want the entire set of partners to work on. Their meetings are incredibly creatively well designed – really amazing facilitation. The President’s climate initiatives are ramping up. There is funding for education in the FY15 budget, pending congressional approval. If we get that \$2.3 million, it opens up more existing money for education because it frees up money that doesn’t have to be used in other ways. Climate Data Access and Resiliency Toolkit may be of interest to others in the network. National Climate Assessment (NCCA) the report will come out on April 28 and I will give an update to the Council in May. We are working on promotional materials to help you have access to it. We will feature NCCA strongly at NSTA.
- BM: NOAA Climate Stewards is getting ready for NSTA. We have offered a total of 1700-1800 hours for educator PD, and that’s probably underreported. Those numbers are just for 2013 and it’s ongoing. We’re working on two face to face workshops, one at the Norrie Point NERRS and others in NY and Colorado. We are working with regional leader at UCAR and NCAR. We are prepping for NSTA. We are offering 28 presentations and a full day exhibitor workshop with partners: CPO, USFS and US Ice Drilling Program.
- RP: NOAA Research Ocean Acidification program is working with others to launch ocean acidification communications series. First one kicks off today at 3 pm. Mark Shaffer visited Exploratorium a few weeks ago. HE’s an enthusiastic supporter of the partnership and may have resources to help support it. A few artists affiliated with Exploratorium are in town – commissioned a piece based on NOAA science.
 - BM: Ocean Acidification Webinar is looking to be very popular – 100s are registered and it will be recorded.
- CM: Marlene has worked on the Interagency Working Group on Ocean Education (IWG-OE), now she is transitioning that to me. I may be reaching out to many of you and informal get together to find out how to best represent NOAA in that forum.
 - FN: Would you be open to seeing how we can bring the IWG-OE and the Climate Interagency working group together? We have the same agencies and similar missions.
 - MK, CM: Yes, it is a good idea to deliberately engage the two groups.
 - FN: Would they be interested in climate and having this discussion?
 - MK: Climate change is specifically addressed in the National Ocean Policy Implementation Plan priority objectives. We have always included climate change education in discussions and activities. IWG-OE briefed the National Ocean Council Interagency Policy Committee on the President’s STEM education budget proposal and asked for guidance on how to reconcile seemingly mixed messages from the Administration. The Policy Committee was interested to know which other groups were in a similar situation (such as the US Global Change Research Program) and asked for impact statements once the Budget was announced.
 - LK: We can spend a few minutes after Ed Council to talk about this.
- LH: Marine debris would like to give a thank you to anyone who helped review Prevention Through Education. I will be judging at the DC STEM Fest for NOAA award.
- SN: I’m reporting for Sanctuaries and B-WET. All B-WET competitions have closed. We are planning for the B-WET meeting in mid-May in DC. Bob Steelquist is retiring after many years in federal government in May. Sanctuaries: the Nancy Foster scholarship program is recommending for funding two masters and two doctoral students. Education Coordinators meeting will take place this year for the first time in 5-6 years.

- JB: Sarah Schoedinger asked me to give an update on the Needs Assessment Survey – 66 people have responded. We will share the findings with the Ed Council at some point. The survey will close on March 24.
- LG: Pacific Services is giving a Sphercast on Tsunami on March 27 from Pacific Services Center.
- LN: If I haven't heard from you about the updates to the Annual Operating plan, is it correct to assume that numbers are good?
 - RG: We are probably going to modify our numbers based on the meeting we had with your office this week. Follow up with Chris Maier.
 - LK: The numbers have dramatically increased with contributions from NWS and others. It's exciting to see more of NOAA's accomplishments represented in the numbers.
- LK: I was asked to speak to presidential awardees in math and science teaching. I was amazed at how many of them are using NOAA science. Two were former Teachers at Sea.

100Kin10: Providing America's classrooms with 100,000 excellent STEM teachers by 2021 (Informational) - Talia Milgrom-Elcott/ Frank Niepold sponsor (15 min presentation/ 15 min discussion)

- See presentation.
 - Information to partners by May
- CM: Thank you for a great presentation. As I understand, the purpose of this was to be responsive to the President's agenda in STEM. Are you in direct communication with the administration?
 - TME: We are, partially through our partner institutions, including NOAA, NSF, and Department of Education. We are also connected to OSTP. Advice on or offline on how to communicate with the administration is welcome.
- MK: We agree with the idea of getting everyone involved in teacher professional development. But the administration is interested in having one a few big federal agencies contributing rather than lots of little ones. We are challenged to make the case that the work that we're doing is contributing to this. In your research studies, are you coming up with guidelines for effective PD? Will we get guidance on how multiple partners can contribute?
 - TI: I heard two different things. The first is about a tension between consolidation in approach vs. inviting many to contribute. The second is about whether the R&D work will lead to answers around what works and what doesn't. On the first point, we have always tried to strike a balance between something that is truly a groundswell and comes from the people doing the work, and also providing a threshold for excellence. All of our partners have to be nominated and vetted. It seems like the ideal mix is some freedom yet some coordination. On the R&D question, we envision that you will have a trove of information that heretofore does not exist. At first we will collect information on where people are investing energy, then when we start to see the outliers, we will literally send out teams to do case studies. We can both mastermind and enable peer-to-peer learning. This is a field of people who are in it to do good. There's a very negative rhetoric about teachers, but I don't think that that is the reality. For example, Roland Friar studied incentivizing kid's performance. Paying kids to get A's didn't work, but the control was paying kids to read books and those kids did fantastically. The money was motivating, but the more they read and the more they learned. They just needed some help to get from here to there. One of the things that I hope we will do is enable organizations to adapt and modify. Helping organizations find partners so that they don't to do all the work by themselves is the North Star on this.

- MK: This research that you're doing on this is very important to us.
- FN: When can our broader community begin to explore research findings? When could we open the doors a little wider?
 - TME: I should preface this by saying that we are a team of 5 people. We are thinking about where we are most useful at catalyzing this work and where it is best for us to get out of the way and facilitate peer-to-peer learning. We would like a resource where people can pose a question and find out who else is working on it and may have the answers. Some solutions do not exist, and 100K in 10 can help find identify those, but we would also like to connect people to the solutions that exist but are not well exposed. We are working to build a platform so that the network can address questions and find solutions without any intervention from 100K in 10. If anyone on the phone has thoughts on that or ideas on how to build this please let us know.
 - FN: What is the timescale? This year? Longer term?
 - TME: It is the aspiration to have it available this year.
- JH: Since you still need time to put this together, where on your site would you point us to get information?
 - TME: You can access that on the Partner Portal: contact, where they work, information about funder, every grant that has been made as a 100K in 10 funder collaborative. Anyone at NOAA should have access to this.
 - **ACTION: Frank will email council with access information.**
- TME: Thank you for inviting me and seeing this as a way that you can do your work better. Showing up with us in this way is very powerful. Your presence does communicate something very important to people. It matters a great deal.
- JH: They are listed as an ELG recipient?
 - FN: No, we committed that we would spend \$2 million for teacher PD over the next 5 years.
 - JH: There are grants that we've given out that meet their criteria.
 - MK: What we originally envisioned was that ELG would hold a grant competition for teacher professional development tied to 100K in 10. The problem is that it stalled out because there aren't specific guidelines from them to tie it to. We have given out literacy grants for teacher PD, but we haven't pointed it here. They are targeting the NGO industry community and offer opportunities for grantees to apply through 100K in 10. NOAA was different from the others because we don't operate that way, but they've broadened their scope.
 - FN: There's a survey out this week about that commitment. We can call a meeting with other funders. The opportunity for peer-to-peer learning is exciting and there may be opportunities to build here.

Farewell to Sepp! Sepp is moving with his family to start a job as an environmental scientist in Corpus Christi, Texas.